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girders, ties, buttresses, dovetailing, and varnish, all existed in nature before man conceived them. So with spades, scissors, chisels, the plane, saw, boring, striking and grasping tools. Philosophic toys, fans, water-rams and paper-making—in short, many of the arts of every-day life are the reflections of nature. The book is full of curious facts, and set forth in a plain, simple, attractive style.

REPORT OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST OF NEW JERSEY FOR 1884. Geo. H. Cook, Director.—From this report we learn that the geodetic survey of New Jersey is completed except in the interior of the southern part, and that the topographical survey has completed over three-fifths of the total area. The volume includes notices of the buried forest near South Amboy, consisting of chestnut, oak, cedar, etc., in complete preservation, and probably buried since the settlement of the country; of the glacial drift and yellow sand and gravel; of the continuation of the plastic clays, marls, etc., of the Cretaceous and Tertiary strata under the ocean for one hundred miles; of the now celebrated columnar trap rocks of Orange mountain; of the Devonian, Silurian and Archæan areas of Northern New Jersey; of the mines and mining industry; artesian wells, etc., of the State.

Perhaps the most interesting result given is that the slope of the sea bottom beyond the continental plateau is almost exactly the same as the dip of the Cretaceous strata. The presence of the Cretaceous beds in the marginal deposits of the ocean, as proved by borings, seems to prove the Pre-cretaceous age of the ocean bottom.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GEOLOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY OF INDIANA. John Collett, Director.—This volume is accompanied by a geological map giving a fair exhibit of the surface geology of the State. The topographical and geological features of Madison, Hamilton, Fayette and Union counties, are given more in detail, and Dr. J. S. Newberry describes the drift deposits of the State. The volume closes with an account of the mammalian fauna of the Post-pliocene deposits, by Professor E. D. Cope and J. L. Wortman. The Artiodactyla are *Platygonus compressus* and *Cariacus dolichopsis*; the Proboscidea, *Elephas primigenius* and *Mastodon americanus*; while the Rodentia are represented by the singular *Castoroides ohioensis*, an animal exceeding the capybara in size, and, spite of its name, differing widely in character from the beaver. *Megalonyx jeffersoni* represents the sloth-like edentates, and the genus Equus has left the remains of two species, *E. fraternus* and *E. major*, in the Pliocene and Post-pliocene of Indiana.

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GENERAL NOTES.

GEOGRAPHY AND TRAVELS.[1]

ASIA.—*The Trigonometrical Survey of India.*—At the meeting of the British Association, held at Aberdeen in September of this year, the president of the geographical section, General J. T. Walker, gave an account of the survey of Hindostan. Survey operations along the coast-lines began before the commencement of the seventeenth century, and the first general map of India, published by D'Anville in 1752, was compiled from the charts of coast-lines and the itineraries of travelers. Major Rennell, appointed surveyor of Bengal in 1764, was the father of Indian geography. In nineteen years he surveyed 300,000 square miles, and after his return to England, published a great work on Indian geography. At the close of the last century Major Lambton drew up a project for a general triangulation of Southern India. He commenced work by a careful triangulation of Southern India, but for several years no notice was taken of his import-

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[1] This department is edited by W. N. LOCKINGTON, Philadelphia.